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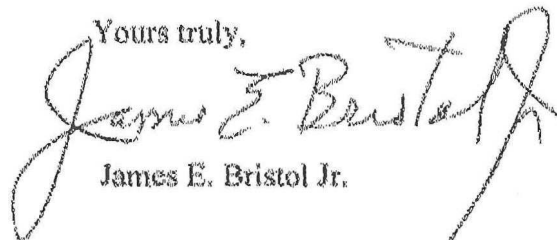
Dear Attorney General Coakley,

I am writing in support of the merger of South Shore Hospital and Partners Health Care. I was privileged to serve on the Board of Directors of South Shore Hospital for 25 years including 4 years as chairman of the Board. I am very proud of the progress of South Shore Hospital during this period of growth. During this time a merger was considered once before, it was not the right time. Now with the many changes in health care I believe the merger will benefit the many future patients of the South Shore area.

I also support the merger of Harbor Medical with Partners. Harbor Medical has grown to have many specialties under one roof and has been very beneficial to the South Shore area. Such benefits as their urgent care unit is one example.

Thank you for offering a way to express our support.

Yours truly,



James E. Bristol Jr.